# THE EXAMINER.

No. 50. SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1808.

## THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few.
SWIFT.

No. 50.

### THE TWO CAUSES OF SPANISH MISCHANCE.

1. I believe there is scarcely one independent person in these kingdoms who is not dissatisfied with the manner in which the war has been hitherto conducted both by ourselves and by our allies. The difference is so apparent between the indecision of our own party, and the decision of the enemy, between the indolence of the allied governments and the activity of BONAPARTE, between our scattered views and scattered armaments, and his vigorous concentration of eyesight and of action, that the pity and the patience of the beholders are almost worn out, and they are forced into an unwilling admiration of the *worst* cause in the world because it's maintainers, in the midst of their iniquity, have shewn a spirit beyond that of the *best*. It is now twelve years since the great Captain of the age has set a continual example of all the qualities necessary to military success, and of that collected system of warfare which renders every thing subservient to one great immediate object, and yet by some wretched fatality, which looks more like an afflicting dispensation of Providence than any other principle, we have always acted in a manner totally the reverse.—Of course the effect has been totally the reverse also. In every great art there is a principle which might have taught us better. If the warrior aims at the vital part of his enemy's force and merely flourishes his weapon about the other limbs, the painter brings his great effect in the centre and only plays about the subordinate parts of his work, and the poet makes all his art subservient to his principal story, neither tiring us with preliminaries nor wasting his mind and his materials in useless episodes. But the whole picture of our military warfare is full of it's scattered lights, the whole story is retarded and spoiled by digressions as long and as laboured as the main subject, and alas, we reach the catastrophe before we think the work half finished. In this manner we have been sending expeditions where BONAPARTE sends nothing but intriguers; we have been sending armaments east, north, and south, or rather playing at soldiers all over Europe, while he has rushed alternately to the hearts of Austria, Prussia, Russia, and Spain. We cut all our brilliant resources into little stars, that twinkle over an hundred coasts but neither warm nor enlighten, while the enemy collects his into one vertical and overpowering sun, that relaxes every arm and scorches up every region on the Continent. Our allies unfortunately are seized with our own military distraction. Instead of collecting all their forces to drive, at one blow, the half-conquered enemy from the frontiers, they wait in divisions of all kinds for the enemy's great succours to arrive, and what they cannot do against forty-thousand Frenchmen, hope to accomplish against three times the number. The Junta sees the necessity of a greater force, but reposes in dreams of continental alliance and universal insurrection, and lastly refuses its confidence to the people, till it finds it cannot do without them. First, the assistance of a British force is refused, and then it is solicited; then we land our troops, after some unaccountable delay and neglect on the part of the Commissariat; then the soldiers are unluckily sick, and the weather terribly wet, and Heaven knows how the French get on; then Sir JOHN and Sir DAVID cannot contrive, with all their powers of combination, to form a junction, not only because the enemy is *imagined* to have interposed, but for another small reason, their total ignorance, at the distance of 80 miles, of each other's position. BONAPARTE, therefore, gets to Madrid; and in the meantime, Sir DAVID BAIRD asks an English messenger who happens to pass the road, if he has heard any thing of Sir JOHN MOORE. Thus what we cannot delay we disperse, and what we cannot waste by dispersion we ruin by delay.

2. There is, however, a second mode of accounting for the present state of the war, still more obvious, if possible, than the one I have just mentioned; and if some of the papers conceal the truth, because they are read in the English Court, and *others, I suppose, because they are read in that of France*, it may still be mentioned in a poor weekly paper, which loves the truth better than any thing, and which has not the honour to be read by the Editor of the *Moniteur*. To be sure it must be, *in the end*, a fine malicious thing, to withhold a piece of information from that much-to-be-punished gentleman; and it is easier, no doubt, to imagine than to describe the excess of his gall, when he peruses the present article in the daily papers, written in a tone so reposing in its confidence, and so natural in its vivacity! But to inform the people of England of one great cause of their mischances, is at least one good method of teaching them how to be more cautious on a similar

occasion; and the fact is, that they have been, to this very hour, grossly deceived as to the unanimity of the Spanish nation. I do not say, that we ought not to have assisted them: a mere spark may be blown into a flame, provided we catch it at its proper instant of inflammability; but had we been perfectly certain how far we might and might not have depended on the cordiality of the natives, we should have been much better enabled to know how far we should have simply united with the natives on the defensive, or directed our immediate operations against the invader.

When Bonaparte saw that the Patriots could not drive his troops over the frontiers, he foresaw in great measure the conquest of Spain. He had reason to judge, that if with all the new impulse of enthusiasm, the hopes of alliance, and the first conquest on their side, they could not direct or raise a force sufficient to conquer a set of men not originally intended to fight them, they would stand little chance of opposing a complete and conquering host. He saw no British all this while in Spain, and he reasonably calculated on another obstruction also in the way of his enemies, which some shrewd politicians of late seem to have forgotten in their ardour to criminate the Ministry. It always appeared to me, that the cause of *one* of our apparent mistakes in sending an army to Lisbon instead of the Pyrenees was owing in great measure to the Spaniards themselves, who might naturally have felt more disposed to accept our money than our troops, for our oppressions in Ireland, our usurpations in India, and our assassinations at Copenhagen, may be allowed to have some little effect upon national character, though the courtiers say not. Bonaparte however saw the Spaniards were not eager to be assisted by the conquerors of Copenhagen, and he made the speediest use of his good fortune: he entered Spain before a single Englishman, comparatively speaking, had set foot in the country; the first hostile city he reached opened its gates to him with the "good bishop" at it's head; the first great battle he fought, he gained; and instead of the 500,000 troops which the Junta *now* tell the people they must furnish, there is every reason to believe that the patriots have never amounted to a fourth of that number.

It is at length evident, that the revolution, though a revolution of the people, has not possessed sufficient depth and body of stream to make a progress effectually powerful. The Spanish Aristocracy, I fear, are a mass of apostates: a few of them have got the power into their hands; the refuse of the Courts of Charles and Ferdinand have undertaken to deliver Europe; but where are all the proud titles of Castile and Arragon, the Dons, the Hidalgos, and the Grandees of Old Spain, whose ancestors drove out the Mussulman and gave an air of truth to romance itself? The people have risen, but their backs are too much accustomed to bow to national prejudices, to crucifixes, and to Grandees. Revolutions in nations wretchedly corrupt are like all other desperate remedies; they must be truly desperate before they can remedy; and I think it is no hard thing to say, that unless the Spanish Nobility had unanimously joined in the struggle of the lower classes for existence, they ought not to have been suffered to exist themselves.

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## *FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.*

### FRANCE.

*FIRST BULLETIN OF THE ARMY OF SPAIN.*

Vittoria, Nov. 9.—Position of the French army on the 25th of October:—Head-quarters at Vittoria. The Marshal Duke of Cornegliano, with his left wing, along the banks of the Arragon and the Ebro. Head-quarters at Tafalla. The Marshal Duke of Elchingen is with his head-quarters at Guardia. The Marshal Duke of Istria has his head-quarters at Miranda, with a garrison in Fort Pancorba. The General of Division Merlin occupies with one division the heights of Durango, and presses upon the enemy, who seem disposed to attack the heights of Mondragon. The Marshal Duke of Dantzic having arrived with the divisions of Sebastiani and Laval, the King was pleased to order the division of Merlin to return. The enemy being in the mean time in force at Lerin, and having occupied Viana, and several posts on the left bank of the Ebro, the King ordered the Duke of Cornegliano to advance against the enemy. Gen. Walther, commander of the cavalry, and the brigades of Generals Herbert, Brune, and Razout, proceeded against the enemy's posts. On the 27th of October the enemy were defeated at all points. Twelve hundred men, who were surrounded in Lerin, at first shewed a disposition to defend themselves; but Gen. Grandjean having made his arrangements, defeated them completely, making prisoners one Colonel, two Lieut.-Colonels, 40 officers, and 1200 soldiers. These troops formed a part of the camp of St. Roque, before Gibraltar. At the same time, Marshal the Duke of Elchingen marched for Logrono, passed the Ebro, took 300 of the enemy prisoners, pursued them several miles, and re-established the bridge of Logrono. In consequence of this event, the Spanish General Pignatelli, who commanded the insurgents, was stoned by them.

The troops of the traitor Romana, and the Spanish prisoners in England, landed by the English in Spain, with the divisions of Gallicia, making together a force of 30,000 men, threatened from Bilboa Marshal the Duke of Dantzic, who, led on by a noble ardour, advanced upon them on the 31st of October, and drove them, at the point of the bayonet, from all their positions. The troops of the Confederation of the Rhine, and particularly the corps of Baden, distinguished themselves. The Marshal Duke of Dantzic closely followed up his pursuit of the enemy, the whole 1st of November, as far as Guenes, and entered Bilboa. In the city very considerable magazines were found. Several Englishmen were made prisoners. The enemy's loss in killed and wounded was considerable; but we took very few of them prisoners. Our loss consists of only 50 killed, and about 100 wounded. However praiseworthy this action was, it was to be wished that it had not taken place; the Spanish corps was in a situation to have been completely cut off. The corps of Marshal Victor having just arrived, was detached from Vittoria to Orduna. On the 7th of November, the enemy, reinforced by fresh troops from St. Andero, occupied the heights of

Guenes. The Marshal Duke of Dantzic advanced against them, and broke through their centre. The 58th and 32d regiments distinguished themselves upon this occasion.

Had these events occurred in the plains, not a man of the enemy would have escaped; but the mountains of St. Andero and Bilboa are almost impassable. The Duke of Dantzic pursued the foe during the whole of the day in the passes of Valmaseda. In these various affrays, the enemy have lost in killed and wounded from 3500 to 4000 men.

The Duke of Dantzic particularly praises the Generals of Division Laval and Sebastiani, the Dutch General Chassey, Colonel Lacoste, of the 27th regiment of light infantry, Colonel Baco, of the 63d regiment of the line, and the Colonels of the regiments of Baden and Nassau, upon whom his Majesty has conferred rewards. The army is abundantly supplied with provisions, and the weather is very fine. Our columns are marching forward, and combining their movements. It is supposed that the head-quarters will move forward to-night from Vittoria.

*SECOND BULLETIN OF THE ARMY OF SPAIN.*

BURGOS, NOV. 12.—The Duke of Dantzic entered Valmaseda, in pursuit of the foe. On the 8th Gen. Sebastiani discovered the rear-guard of the insurgents upon a high hill to the right of Valmaseda: he immediately advanced against them, defeated them, and took about 100 of them prisoners. In the mean time, the city of Burgos was occupied by the army of Estremadura, consisting of three divisions. The advanced guard was composed of Walloons and Spanish guards; and the students of the Universities of Salamanca and Leon, divided into several battalions, and some regiments of the line, with other corps raised since the insurrection of Badajoz, made the whole of this army amount to little short of 20,000 men. The command of the cavalry of the army was given to Marshal the Duke of Istria; and the Emperor confided the command of the second corps to Marshal the Duke of Dalmatia. On the 10th, at day-break, the latter Marshal marched at the head of the division of Mouton, to reconnoitre the enemy. On reaching Gamonal, he was received with the discharge of 30 pieces of artillery. This was the signal for advancing at the *pas de charge*; the infantry of the division of Mouton attacked them, supported by the artillery. The Walloons and Spanish guards were defeated at the first onset. The Duke of Istria, at the head of his cavalry, attacked them in flank. The enemy were completely routed; 3000 of them being left dead on the field. We took 12 pair of colours, 25 pieces of cannon, and 3000 prisoners. The remainder were completely dispersed. Our troops entered the city of Burgos intermixed with the enemy, and the cavalry pursued them in all directions.

This army of Estremadura, which had come from Madrid by forced marches, whose first enterprise was the assassination of their unfortunate General Count Torres, and which was completely equipped with English arms, besides being in the pay of England, is no longer in existence. The Colonel of the Walloon Guards, and a considerable number of the superior officers, are prisoners. Our loss was very inconsiderable, consisting only of 12 or 15 killed, and at most 50 wounded; only one Captain was killed by a cannon ball. This affair, which we owe to the excellent dispositions of the Duke of Dalmatia, and the intrepidity with which the Duke of Istria led on the cavalry, does the greatest honour to the division of Mouton; though it is well known that this division consists of corps whose name alone has for a long time been a title of honour. The castle of Burgos has been occupied, and was found in good condition; it contained considerable quantities of flour, wine, and grain. On the 11th, the Emperor reviewed the division of General Bonnet, and immediately detached it towards the entrance of the passes of St. Andero.

The position of the army this day is as follows:—The Marshal Duke of Belluno is in close pursuit of the remains of the army of Gallicia who are flying in the direction of Villarcayo and Reynosa, towards which points the Duke of Dalmatia is also marching. They can have no other resource than that of dispersing in the mountains with the loss of artillery, baggage, and every thing that consitutes an army. His Majesty the Emperor is with his guard at Burgos. Gen. Milhaud is marching with his division upon Palencia. Gen. Lasalle has taken possession of Lerma. Thus in an instant have the armies of Gallicia been defeated, dispersed, and partly annihilated, notwithstanding that all the corps of our army have not yet come up. Three-fourths of the cavalry, and almost one half of the infantry remain behind.

The army of the insurgents exhibited the most singular contrast. In the pockets of the officers who were killed, were found lists of the companies, having some of them the name of *Company of Brutus*, and some of them *Company of the People*. There were Companies of Students, and others that had the names of Saints. Such were the military bands that composed the insurgent army of the peasants. Anarchy and confusion—these were what England sowed in Spain. What will she reap from them? The hatred of this brave people, when they are once enlightened, and under a good government; for the rest, the extravagance of the leaders of the insurgents is every where notorious. Among the the standards that have fallen into our hands are some bearing a representation of the Lion of Spain tearing in pieces the Imperial Eagle. And who are they that have indulged in such emblems? The worst troops in Europe. The cavalry of the army of Estremadura could not even so much as face us. The instant the 10th regiment of chasseurs came in sight of them, they were put to the rout, and were no longer to be seen.

The Emperor reviewed the corps of the Duke of Dalmatia previous to its marching from Burgos in pursuit of the rear of the army of Gallicia. His Majesty has made various promotions, distributed rewards, and is extremely well satisfied with the conduct of these troops. He had expressed his satisfaction to the conquerors of Medina, Rio Seco, and Burgos, the Marshal Duke of Istria, and Generals Merle and Mouton."

*THIRD BULLETIN OF THE ARMY OF SPAIN.*

BURGOS, NOV. 13.—The army of Gallicia is flying from Bilboa, and is followed by Marshal the Duke of Belluna in the direction of Espinosa and Marshal the Duke of Dantzic in that of Villarcayo. Marshal the Duke of Dalmatia has proceeded for Reynosa to cut off their retreat; so that very important events may be expected. Gen. Milhaud has entered Palencia with his division of cavalry, and sent detachments to the passes of Reynosa, in pursuit of a park of artillery, belonging to the army of Gallicia.

The young students of Salamanca, who thought of nothing short of the conquest of France, and the fanatical peasantry that already dreamed of plundering Bayonne and Bourdeaux, and conceived that they were every where conducted by Saints that had appeared to their cheating monks, now see all their mischievous illusions vanishing; their despair and confusion are at their height; they lament over the misfortunes to which they have become a prey, the falshoods they have been made to believe, and the causeless struggle in which they have involved themselves. The whole plain of the Castiles is already covered with our cavalry; the ardour and zeal of our troops enable them to march 14 or 15 miles a-day with great ease. Our piquets are upon the Douro. The whole coast, from St. Andero to Bilboa, is cleared of the enemy.

The unfortunate city of Burgos, a prey to all the calamities of a city taken by storm, trembles with terror. Priests, monks, and inhabitants, took to flight, upon the first tidings of the battle, apprehensive that the soldiers of the army of Estremadura would, as they gave out, defend

themselves in their houses, and that they would be first plundered by these, and afterwards by our soldiers, who, having driven out the enemy, would find no inhabitants there. Such men as M. Vanstein, who from want of troops of the line, themselves incapable of opposing our Eagles, encourage the extravagant idea of an insurrection *en masse*, ought to be sensible of the evils resulting from it, and of the very inconsiderable obstacles which such a resource can offer to regular troops.

In Burgos and the environs, a quantity of wool has been found, to the amount of thirty millions, which his Majesty the Emperor has ordered to be put under sequestration. All the wool belonging to monks, or any other persons who have joined the insurgents, will be confiscated and appropriated in the first instance to the indemnification of the losses sustained by the French; for even at Madrid, Frenchmen resident for 40 years, have been stripped of their property. Those Spaniards who have been faithful to their King were declared exiles. The property of the most virtuous and enlightened minister Asanza, of the most able seaman Massaredo, and of the best soldier in Spain O'Farril, has been publicly sold. That of Campo d'Alange, respectable for his virtues, his reputation, and his wealth, being the owner of 60,000 Merinos, and having an annual income of three millions, has become the prey of these frantic proceedings.

Another measure ordered by the Emperor is, the confiscation of all English goods and colonial produce, landed in Spain since the insurrection. The merchants of London do very well to send their merchandize to Lisbon, Oporto, and the ports of Spain. The more they send, the greater the contribution with which they supply us.

The city of Palencia, governed by a worthy Bishop, has received our troops with kindness. That city suffers none of the evils of war. A virtuous Bishop who observes the doctrines of the Gospel, and who is inspired with Christian charity, and from whose lips flow nothing but honey, is the greatest blessing that Heaven can bestow upon a people: but an ambitious, rancorous, and wicked Prelate, who preaches nothing but insurrection, disobedience, and disorder, is a monster that God has sent in his wrath to nations to mislead them, by polluting the very fountain of morality.

In the prisons of Burgos are a great number of monks, who were stoned by the peasantry. "*Wretches!*" said they to them, "*it is you that have plunged us into this gulf of misery; perhaps we shall never again behold our unhappy wives and our poor children. Wretches! a righteous God will punish you in Hell for all the calamities you have brought on our families and our country.*"

*FOURTH BULLETIN OF THE ARMY OF SPAIN.*

BURGOS, Nov. 15.—His Majesty yesterday reviewed the division of Marchand. He appointed the most meritorious officers and sub-officers to fill the vacant commissions, and bestowed rewards upon the soldiers that distinguished themselves. His Majesty was highly pleased with these troops, who had just arrived, without a single halt, from the borders of the Vistula. The Duke of Elchingen has set off from Burgos. The Emperor reviewed his guard this morning upon the plain of Burgos. His Majesty afterwards inspected the division of Desolles, and filled up all the vacancies in that division. Events are in preparation, and all is in progress. Nothing can succeed in war that is not the result of a well-digested plan.

Among the prisoners were some who had on their buttons an eagle reversed, with two arrows, and the motto, *To the conqueror of France.* By this ridiculous bravado we may easily recognize the countrymen of Don Quixotte. It would be impossible to find worse troops either in the mountains or the plains. Clownish ignorance, silly conceits, cruelty towards the weak, and baseness towards the strong—such is the scene we have before us. The Monks and the Inquisition have plunged this nation into barbarism.

Ten thousand light infantry and dragoons, with 24 field-pieces, marched off on the 11th to attack the rear of the English division that was said to be at Valladolid. These brave fellows went over 34 miles of ground in two days, but our hopes were disappointed. We entered Palencia and Valladolid, and advanced even six miles farther, and found no Englishmen, but abundance of promises and assurances. In the mean time it appears certain that a division of their troops has disembarked at Coruna, and that another division, at the beginning of this month, entered Badajoz. The day we fall in with them will be a day of festivity to the French army. May they moisten with their blood that Continent which they have desolated with their intrigues, their monopoly, and their horrible selfishness! May they, instead of 20,000, be 80 or 100,000; that the English mothers may learn what the calamities of war are, and that the English Government may not always continue to sport with the lives and blood of the people of the Continent. The greatest falsehoods, the basest means, have been employed by English Machiavelism to mislead the Spanish nation; but the bulk of it is still good. Biscay, Navarre, Old Castile, and the greater part of Arragon itself, are well disposed. The nation in general behold with the most profound sorrow, the abyss into which it is plunged, and will speedily curse the authors of so many calamities.

Florida Blanca, who is at the head of the insurgents, is the person who was Minister under Charles III. He was always the sworn enemy of France, and the zealous partisan of England. It is to be hoped that he will, in the evening of his days, discover the errors of his political life. He is an old man, who, to the blindest attachment to the English, adds the most credulous superstition. His confidents and friends are the most fanatical and stupid of the Monks.

Tranquillity is restored at Burgos and the environs. To the first moment of fury, confidence has succeeded. The peasants have returned to their villages, and are again pursuing their labours.

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## SPAIN.

[*FROM THE PATRIOTIC PAPERS.*]

MADRID, Nov. 23.—The following Proclamation is extracted from the *Diario* of this day:—

SPANIARDS!—The Central Junta of Government of the Kingdom, after having taken all measures in its power to defeat the enemy, who, continuing his attacks, has advanced into the neighbourhood of Sornosa, addresses you for the purpose of putting you upon your guard against the intrigues with which the perfidious agents of Napoleon endeavour to alarm and deceive you, by increasing the number of the enemy's troops, who hardly amount to 8000 men, according to the report made by the General, whom the Junta has charged with the defence of the important post of Guadarrama.

Inhabitants of Madrid—The country stands in need of your exertion; your circumspection and patriotism are the bulwarks on which it chiefly rests its defence; the Junta trusts that you will know how to support the disposition of your Captain-General, and of the Tribunal of Vigilance, in order to discover and deliver to the inexorable arm of the law all traitors, who will now exert themselves more than ever to introduce disorder, and paralyze the activity with which you must be present at all points which will be pointed out to you; bearing in mind the 2d day of May, when deprived of all assistance, and even of the liberty to defend yourselves, you struck the whole nation with astonishment by your loyalty and valour.

The Central Junta feels at a loss to express to you the confidence which the enthusiasm with which the soldiers of the nation prepare themselves to beat the enemies of our beloved Sovereign Ferdinand VII. of our Country, and our Religion. Our allies, the English, convinced of the

justice of the cause we defend, and animated by the same enthusiasm, are invited and ready to march from the Escurial, where they are at present, to reinforce the position chosen by our wise Generals, and support the operations of our van, which must already have commenced to engage the slaves of the Tyrant, who oppresses all nations. Spaniards! cowardice, inspired by treason, will no doubt try every means to augment the danger exaggerated by the ill-disposed, in order to frustrate the measures pursued by the Junta, which places implicit confidence in your unexampled fidelity and obedience.—By order of the Supreme Junta, MARTIN DE GARAY.

*Royal Palace of Aranjuez, Nov.* 21, 1808.

## PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE.

"*Corunna, Nov.* 28.

"A division of the French army has gone in quest of the forces under Sir D. Baird, who, in consequence, has thought fit to fall back upon Lugo. The British troops were joined by 4 or 5000 Gallicians, and, I am sorry to say, that many of these have conducted themselves improperly, and others have deserted. It is supposed that the British troops will soon re-embark at this port. The post from Madrid has been stopped, and we are very apprehensive of bad news from that quarter. Sir J. Moore's army is 25,000 strong, and is falling back in expectation of a visit from the enemy in considerable force. General Moore has with him about 10,000 Portuguese, in whom however he can place little confidence."

"*December* 1.

"The neglect and inattention among many persons of influence in this province has been highly criminal. One hundred thousand men might have been found in Gallicia alone, but the efficacious means for such an important purpose have been disregarded. A decree of the Central Junta has passed, by which 550,000 men are to be raised, under which the Dignitaries of the Church, Religious Orders, Bachelors, Doctors, and Professors of Divinity, are not be excused. The nobility are also included, and by such resolute means, the end will ultimately be attained. It is thought that the gentleness and *sang froid* of Blake's disposition has been in some degree prejudicial to us. The general opinion is, that as soon as he had led his troops to the mountains, and had obtained some advantages over the French, he should not have admitted the latter to rally and obtain reinforcements, but should have complied with the wishes of his army, to follow them up to the point of the bayonet. He also took many spies, and, contrary to the practice in war, he did not hang any one of them. Besides this, it is thought that he kept his line too much extended, by which means, the divisions could not cooperate, and they were too weak to act alone. In the affair of Reynosa, it is not true that we lost a great number; for those that are put to flight have generally much nimbler heels than their pursuers. General Romana, who was on that occasion four leagues nearer to Leon, succeeded to the command of the army; and is now endeavouring to restore it. From this Officer much is expected. They say that he has deprived several of commissions they did not know how to employ, which he has conferred on Serjeants and others much inferior in rank, but much superior in merit."

ANOTHER LETTER.

"Advices are this instant received of the defeat of Castanos by the French, and of the total dispersion of his army. He was completely surprized, for he was induced to advance across the Ebro from the false information of the weakness of the corps under Marshal Moncey, and was drawn into a trap, for Ney fell upon his rear, as soon as the army of Blake had been disposed of, and the result was fatally dreadful. No account is arrived of the day or place when and where the battle was fought, but the fact is too true. And the consequence is, that Sir J. Moore was instructed to begin his retreat on the 26th ult. from Salamanca back on Portugal. And Sir D. Baird on Gallicia. Here we are in the utmost consternation. The stores are now embarking here, and we are told that the vessels are to be sent round to Vigo, as it is not thought advisable to trust the re-embarkation at this port. There is the utmost reason to apprehend that Gen. Hope, who is arrived at Madrid with the cavalry and artillery belonging to Gen. Moore's army, will be cut off. He must be so, if it be true as we hear, that Moore and Baird are retreating. In short, it is absolute despair."

ANOTHER LETTER.

"The effects of that wonderful machine which Bonaparte wields with so much dexterity, are now beginning to display themselves. He did not begin to act till he had brought 70,000 men under his most accomplished Generals, to the reinforcement of his army, which had before been able to keep the Patriots at bay. In a fortnight he has done his work. He began by the dispersion of Blake, and we this day learn that he has with equal facility destroyed Castanos. We have now nothing left for it. Sir J. Moore is at Salamanca, without horse, or artillery. Gen. Hope is at Madrid with horse, but without foot; and Gen. Baird is at Astorga with his horse, in a condition totally unfit for service. They are dying daily in numbers, and the highways are strewed with their carcasses. Nothing can equal the dismay which prevails here. God knows how our armies will get off! Certainly our artillery must be left behind, for the poor beasts of horses that remain alive are unfit to drag the guns through the execrable roads."

## *TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.*

### BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

Joseph Ellis Batley and John Hinchliffe, Meltham, Yorkshire, dyers.

### BANKRUPTS.

G. Beswick, Portsmouth, tavern-keeper, to surrender Dec. 19, at one, 20, at twelve, Jan. 17, at one, at the Blue Posts Inn, Portsmouth Point. Attorney, Mr. Glendining, Portsea.

W. Whitaker, Charlton-row, Manchester, manufacturer, Dec. 14, 21, Jan. 17, at three, at the Dog Tavern, Manchester. Attorneys, Messrs. Kearsley and Cardwell, Manchester.

M. Davenport, Sheffield, cutler, Dec. 15, 16, Jan. 17, at eleven, at the Tontine Inn, Sheffield. Attorneys, Messrs. Wheat, Sheffield.

W. Malone, Birmingham, taylor, Dec. 19, at five, 20, Jan. 17, at twelve, at the Fountain, Birmingham. Attorney, Mr. Stubbs, Birmingham.

H. Stone, Wilton, Herefordshire, cornfactor, Dec. 21, 22, Jan. 17, at eleven, at the Bush Tavern, Bristol. Attorney, Mr. Clissold, Bristol.

T. Hill, Brighthelmstone, baker, Dec. 14, 15, Jan. 17, at ten, at the White Hart Inn, Lewes. Attorney Mr. Gwynne, Lewes.

H. Matthews, Kent-street, Southwark, baker, Dec. 10, 21, Jan. 17, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Noy, Mincing-lane.

S. Bates, Brereton, Staffordshire, grocer, Dec. 17, 19, Jan. 17, at eleven, at the Red Lion Inn, Brereton. Attorney, Mr. Foster, Rugeley.

J. Eldershaw, Shiffnal, Shropshire, horse-dealer, Dec. 19, 20, at eleven, Jan. 17, at four, at the Fountain Inn, Birmingham. Attorney, Mr. Lowe, Birmingham.

J. Dards, Vauxhall, lighterman, Dec. 10, 13, at one, Jan. 17, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Towse, Fishmonger's-Hall, Upper Thames-street.

J. Bruce, owner of the ship Maria, lying at Hull, Dec. 10, 20, Jan. 17, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Kearsley, Bishopsgate-street.

J. Parkes, Horsleydown, wine-merchant, Dec. 13, 20, Jan. 17, at ten, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Atcheson and Morgan, Winchester-street.

J. Mallatratt, Warnsford, Northamptonshire, innholder, Dec. 23, at four, 24, Jan. 17, at ten, at the Littleton Arms Inn, Penkridge, Staffordshire. Attorney, Mr. Willim, Bilston.

## DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 28. J. Anderson, Dean-street, Soho, piano-forte-maker.—Dec. 31. S. Baylis, Ledbury, Herefordshire, baker.—Dec. 28. T. L. Anwyl, Shrewsbury, money-scrivener.—Jan. 5. J. Forshaw, Preston, linen-draper.—Jan. 6. J. Bell and R. Hedley, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, woollen-drapers.—Dec. 27. V. and R. Green, Percy-street, Tottenham-court-road, engravers.—Dec. 30. J. Locker, Bristol, upholder.—Dec. 27. J. Rowe, Castle-street, Falcon-square, merchant.—Jan. 21. J. B. Wienholt, Old Swan, merchant.—Jan. 17. G. Orchard, Copenhagen-house, victualler.—April 1. J. Hirst, Suffolk-lane, Cannon-street, broker.—Jan. 31. J. Parkinson and J. Stork, Southwark, hop-factors.—Dec. 28. J. Marshall, Denby, Yorkshire, tanner.—Dec. 27. J. Atkinson, Cloth-fair, Smithfield, grazier.

## CERTIFICATES—Dec. 27.

J. and G. Herbert, Southwark, tanners.—J. Hill, Fountain-place, City-road, cornfactors.—J. Marks, Hunslet, Leeds, merchant.—J. C. Bower, Ledbury, Herefordshire, milliner.—T. Adams, Lancaster, merchant.—B. Dryer, Exeter, flour-cloth-manufacturer.

## *SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.*

This Gazette contains an account of the capture of four small row-boat French privateers, by the Julia sloop and Express and Attentive gun-brigs.

## BANKRUPTS.

R. Maugham, Brentford, Middlesex, draper, to surrender, Dec. 17, 27, Jan. 21, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Adams, Old Jewry.

D. Phillips, Cambridge-street, Golden-square, broker, Dec. 17, 27, at eleven, Jan. 21, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Stokes, Golden-Square.

M. Maitland, Thorley-Cottage, Ripley, Surrey, chymist, druggist, Dec. 17, at one, 27, at twelve, Jan. 21, at one, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Kearsley, Bishopsgate Within, London.

J. Ekins, Oxford-street, cheesemonger, Dec. 17, at ten, 27, at eleven, Jan. 21, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorneys, Messrs. Bugg and Farr, Addle-street.

[illegible] Bartlett's-Buildings, Holborn, scri-[illegible] Jan. 21, at ten, at Guildhall. [illegible] Mincing-lane,

[illegible] Lancashire, cotton-manufac-[illegible] at eleven, 21, at two, at [illegible] Attornies, Messrs. Cross and [illegible] Sons.

G. Stockwell, Sheerness, Kent, boat-builder, Dec. 17, 24, Jan. 21, at ten, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Silvester, Field-Court Gray's Inn.

J. Leeming, Dutton, Lancashire, cotton-manufacturer, Jan. 2, 3, 21, at twelve, at the George and Dragon, Preston. Attorney, Mr. Winstanley, Preston.

P. Davies, Little St. Andrew-street, Seven Dials, vender of medicines, Dec. 17, 24, Jan. 21, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Scott, Furnival's Inn.

J. Rotheray, Leeds, Yorkshire, woolstapler, Dec. 21, 22, Jan. 21, at eleven, at the Golden Lion Inn, Leeds. Attorney, Mr. Speight, Leeds.

T. Turley, Merthyr-Tidvil, Glamorganshire, brewer, Dec. 15, 16, Jan. 21, at eleven, at the Crown Inn, Merthyr-Tidvil. Attorney, Mr. Merrick, Merthyr-Tidvil.

S. D. Pearson, Beverley, flax-dresser, Dec. 17, 22, Jan. 21, at eleven, at the Tiger Inn, Beverley. Attorney, Mr. Bentley, Beverley.

G. Wheatley, South Shields, draper, Jan. 3, 4, 21, at eleven, at the Queen's Head, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Attorney, Mr. Carr, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

N. J. Winch, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchant, Dec. 23, 31, Jan. 21, at eleven, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Atkinson, Chancery-lane, London.

W. Mark, Plymouth-Dock, linen-draper, Dec. 17, 24, Jan. 21, at twelve, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Bozon, Plymouth-Dock.

W. Careless, Brewood, Staffordshire, stock-lock-maker, Dec. 26, 27, Jan. 21, at eleven, at the Jerningham Arms, Shiffnal. Attorney, Mr. Chrees, Wolverhampton.

W. Greaves, Leeds, currier, Dec. 17, at twelve, 27, at eleven, Jan. 21, at ten, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Wood, Leeds.

R. Hodgman, Folkstone, Kent, engine-maker, Dec. 17, 24, Jan. 21, at twelve, at Guildhall, London. Attornies, Messrs. Nethersole and Portal, Essex-street, Strand.

T. White, Rochester, coal-merchant, Dec. 17, 24, Jan. 21, at ten, at Guildhall, London, Attorney, Mr. Bousfield, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street.

W. Lenox, Bolton, Lancashire, common-brewer, Dec. 19, at four, 28, at twelve, Jan. 21, at four, at the Bridge Inn, Bolton. Attorney, Mr. Boardman, Bolton.

J. W. Bilbee, Greenwich, shopkeeper, Dec. 17. 24, Jan. 21, at twelve, at Guildhall, London.

W. Winch, Long-lane, Borough, carpenter, Dec. 13, 24, Jan. 21, at twelve, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Marson, Church-row, Newington Butts.

## DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 30. T. Steadman, Redmire, Yorkshire, grocer.—Jan. 6. T. Parkin, Witham, Yorkshire, woodmonger.—Jan. 3. E. Dawson, Hinckley, Leicestershire, hosier.—Jan. 10. E. Coats, T. Massey, and J. Hall, Horninglow, Staffordshire, brewers.—Jan. 5. W. Thorpe, Pocklington, Yorkshire, grocer.—Dec. 17. W. Ticken, Marlow-bridge Berks, dealer.—Jan. 24. W. Varndell, Hartley-row, Hants, coachmaker.—Jan. 14. W. Lilley, St. John's-street, Clerkenwell, linen-draper.—Jan. 3. Chas. Bartlett, Cannon-street-road, Middlesex, stone-mason.—Jan. 21. W. and M. Close, Leeds, dyers.—Dec. 31. T. Holmes, Hersham, Surrey, nurseryman.—Dec. 13. W. Mayell, Exeter, jeweller.—Jan. 19. L. and T. A. Beale, Basinghall-street, warehousemen.—Jan. 17. William A. Downe, Brewer-street, Golden-square, undertaker.—Jan. 17. W. Brown and J. Yoxen, Jermyn-street, Westminster, shoemakers.—Dec. 31. J. S. Pritchard, Wigmore-street, grocer.—Feb. 4. I. I. and A. I. Nunes, Hackney, merchants.

## CERTIFICATES—Dec. 31.

J. Sinton, jun. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, miller.—J. Cole, Cockhill, Middlesex, taylor.—J. Johnson, Macclesfield, cotton-spinner.—C. Worrall, Manchester, innkeeper.—Hugh Lawton, Bushingthorpe, Yorkshire, clothier.—J. and G. Inglish, Preston, drapers.

PRICE OF STOCKS YESTERDAY.
Consols for Op. ....66¼. | Red. Ann.....65¼.

The Seventh and last ESSAY ON THE FOLLY AND DANGER OF METHODISM, will appear on Sunday next.

# THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, DECEMBER 11.

OUR readers will recollect that General CASTANOS was said to have crossed the Ebro and gained some advantages over the enemy. It now appears that this facility of passage was afforded him by the enemy themselves, who, after seducing him over the river, fell upon his rear, and put his whole army to the rout. The first account of this disaster was sent by General MOORE to Sir DAVID BAIRD on the 29th November, with immediate orders to fall back upon Vigo, which was chosen for the place of re-embarkation in preference to Corunna, as being more out of reach of the enemy. A part of the heavy artillery and stores in Sir DAVID'S rear had actually embarked when the last intelligence came away. Sir JOHN himself is supposed to have commenced his retreat on the 30th last, and it is stated in letters from Portsmouth, that ships have been ordered to sail for Spain in order to protect our transports. In the mean time, the cavalry which had embarked at Portsmouth were disembarked on Friday, and those at Falmouth will return to shore as speedily as possible; so that the higher powers cannot conceal their entire belief of this wretched disaster, though they tell us they know nothing of the particulars. It might reasonably be asked, why the English were in such a hurry to get away, when we were told that ROMANA had 20,000 men with him still. But we since hear that he has in fact but 6000, and even the good will of the natives towards us, it seems, has been grossly misrepresented, so that to the present disastrous intelligence is added a new mortification to our former credulity. The public may be assured that this mortification will not rest here. ROMANA, it is said, has remonstrated against the embarkation of our troops, alleging that he and his men will certainly be regarded as rebels if they are captured, and pressing us to make a stand with him at Vigo or Ferrol. He will be refused of course, because it is *too late*. It is truly surprising and galling to see the difference of rapidity between the French and their enemies. Sir JOHN MOORE has now been lying at Salamanca, and Sir DAVID BAIRD at Astorga, ever since the middle of last month, and in the same space of time BONAPARTE has conquered the two principal armies of Spain, leaving not one single force, of even nominal importance, to make head against him. In short, when BONAPARTE has most probably arrived at Madrid, the Marquis ROMANA bethinks himself of cashiering several of his *unfit Officers*, and replacing them with subalterns of genius; and the Citizens of London meet together to send clothes to the Spanish patriots!

The Bulletins of the French army are remarkable for nothing but their usual mixture of truth and exaggeration, of bravado and of pithy dispatch. BONAPARTE, under whose eye at least they are certainly written, may truly say that "the Monks and the Inquisition have plunged this nation into barbarism;" but he should not abuse his best friends. When he ridicules also the titles of some of the Spanish companies, such as the company of *Brutus*; of *the People*, &c. he forgets that he once wrote a letter to the Directory signed BRUTUS BONAPARTE, and though he may have learnt to despise what was a mere cant in France, yet he knows very well that it is only because there is not enough of the Brutus spirit in Spain that he is enabled to conquer that country. The names of Saints have indeed very little to do with soldiers, except that the disputes of some of these saints, concerning a number in arithmetic or the twentieth part of a penny roll, have been the cause of some of the most barbarous wars in modern history; but what the Virgin MARY can do with her command of a company, or how the Infant ST. JOHN came to be captain of a troop of horse, may reasonably amuse a modern Frenchman, and give him no very awful idea of the acting commanders. The Spaniards never had a greater need of miracles than at present, and yet the profane French seem the only persons capable of working them. Those decided heretics, the English, are of course out of the question.

An abstract of the most obvious causes of Spanish mischance will be found at the commencement of this Paper.

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Government have had the account of the defeat of CASTANOS in their possession ever since Thursday last, though they have made no public communication on the subject. This is unwise; for concealment always produces exaggeration.

Not less than between 400 and 500 letters were received on Thursday from Spain. It appears that the Spanish troops were in the utmost distress for military stores; and that the people were not by any means so active and unanimous against the French as had been reported. There were not 200,000 men in arms, and they were in general badly clothed, badly officered, and miserably disciplined. Gen. HOPE, with his cavalry, had reached Madrid, but it was feared he would be cut off by the enemy, who were rapidly approaching.

It is reported that BONAPARTE entered Madrid on the 28th. The Supreme Junta, it is stated, quitted Aranjuez on the 23d.

Two Gottenburgh Mails arrived yesterday. The Swedes are still falling back before the Russians, who are in great force. Owing to the want of forage and the dampness of the weather, the retreating Swedes are in much distress, and have at least 6000 men on the sick list; so that their cause appears hopeless.

Mr. SHAW, the Messenger, is stated to have been sent off on Thursday night for France, with the answer of Ministers to the dispatches received by a flag of truce which arrived on Monday. The Russian and French Messengers also took their departure.

Marshal BRUNE, it is stated, died in prison at Paris on the fifth day of his confinement. BONAPARTE was so much dissatisfied with him for having allowed the Swedes to escape from Stralsund, that he said he would have him shot if he were not a Marshal of France.

On Friday, the Purser of the Sarah Christiana, East Indiaman, arrived at the India House with intelligence of that ship's arrival off the Isle of Wight on the 8th inst.—She left Bengal on the 19th of June, with the Ceylon and Northampton, under convoy of the Terpsichore, and joined at St. Helena the Walpole, Duke of Montrose, Worcester, Sir William Pulteney, and Union, Indiamen, a transport, three whalers, and the Fly brig,—which fleet the Sarah Christiana parted with in lat. 43. N. long. 26. W.—The intelligence from India is said to be satisfactory.—Accounts had been received from Capt. MALCOLM, who had been sent to the Court of Persia, which state that his reception there was favourable.

No part of our military system appears more absurd than that of the Colonels of Regiments "*taking leave*" of the men they are appointed to command, at the only moment when their presence can be presumed to be *indispensable—that of actual service.* Why should our military so radically differ from our naval service? What should we think of the arrival of an Admiral, or Captain at Portsmouth, to *take leave of the crew of the Victory, about to sail to reinforce the Channel Fleet daily expected to come to action with the French?* What is there to make that more absurd than the Commander of a Regiment "*taking leave?* Is the Colonel of a Regiment a necessary Officer? If he is, why should he *take leave?* If he is not, why should such a military incumbrance exist?

A curious trial will come on next week respecting BOYDELL's Edition of SHAKSPEARE. Many of the original Subscribers having refused to complete their sets, the Proprietors have brought actions against them, contending, that they are in justice and in law bound to the purchase of the whole work. These Subscribers urge, that the Proprietors have failed in their engagements to the public. Some very judicious observations will be found on this subject in the *Quarterly Review of Art.*

The wife of a methodist cattle-dealer in Sussex, of the name of ROBERT, eloped from a methodist meeting near Rye, on the 24th ult. with another serious man of some property, and her retreat was discovered at the apartments of Mr. W——, her devout paramour, in the neighbourhood of Marybone-lane, on Friday. These men were intimate friends, the former of whom was originally a Jew who had embraced christianity. He seduced the affections of his friend's wife in the course of a week whilst on a visit. The retreat of the wife was discovered by her brother, who traced the parties to a public-house in Tottenham-court-road, where they sojourned a night or two, and he met her at a *meeting-house* in Marybone-lane, on Friday evening.

An Inquisition was taken yesterday at the Swan, in Newington Parish, on the body of Miss WASTEN, a promising young lady, nineteen years of age, who was found dead in her bed on Friday morning. It was ascertained that the young lady, who was the daughter of an independent tradesman, had swallowed poison, in consequence of a love affair. Since her affections had been disappointed, she was thrown into a state of delirium, and the verdict was—*Insanity.*

The following curious proceeding took place on Friday at the Bow-street Office:

Mr. ——, a Jew, accused his servant, Jane Mathews, a very pretty interesting girl of 19, of having pawned his property, to the amount of 40*l.*—The girl, on being interrogated for her defence, replied with much pathos and expression—"So many Gentlemen being present, it costs me many struggles before I can dare to bring forward the only plea I have in extenuation of my offence. I came to Mr. —— a modest, virtuous, and innocent girl (*Here she wept bitterly*)—He seduced me. I afterwards retired to Croydon, where I miscarried."

Mr. ——, "This is utterly false; I never had any connection with her."

*Jane Mathews*—"How much worse Mr. —— intends behaving to me, I am at a loss to learn. Notwithstanding the tenderness of our connection, he has repeatedly abused and beat me—(*Loud murmurs from the Gentlemen present*)—I have been his slave, washed for him, and cleaned his boots I have provided dinners, which I am not now paid for; and it was under the impression that I might be allowed to reimburse myself that I pawned the property in question.

Mr. ——, "She never provided a dinner for me; I deny the seduction, but confess I have been acquainted with her."

Mr. NARES—"Astonishing! Five minutes since, you denied any connection with her whatever! What am I to think of such inconsistency? If this should be permitted to go to trial, you may justly anticipate a severe reprimand from the Judge on the Bench. Men who connect themselves with their maid-servants must expect to be robbed. Indeed, were your case mine, I would, rather than appear in such a situation, consent to lose not only the property of the house, but the house itself. I could say much more, but the task is too irksome. Let the girl be discharged."—Which was accordingly done.

# THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

## No. 35.

*Mr. Kemble's vagaries in Octavian.—The new farce called a School for Authors. Its old plot and characters. A touch of wit. The excellent performance of Munden.*

HAYMARKET.

THE Little Theatre opened on Monday night for the Covent Garden Company with the *Mountaineers* and a new afterpiece called *A School for Authors.* Mr. KEMBLE performed *Octavian*; and such a performance I have not had the misery of witnessing for a long time. *Octavian*, who is a lover and a lunatic, requires almost al

the various expression of tragedy, the pompous, the passionate, the pathetic, the rant of impa ience, and the anguish of a corroding sensibility; but Mr. KEMBLE went through his speeches as if he were reading the "Memoirs of a Parish Clerk," so stiff and cold blooded,

"Some statue you would swear
Stept from it's pedestal to take the air."

I have seen Mr. BRAHAM as well as this gentleman in the character of a mad lover, and I know not which is most adapted to a romantic insanity, the unsuspecting mincing sedateness of the one or the laborious and preaching whine of the other. In short, every body knows the delivery of Mr. KEMBLE in common declamation, every body knows that pedantic precision, which was so long imposed upon the town as the true style of acting, and it was in this manner that Mr. KEMBLE undertook to exhibit the hundred conflicting emotions of amorous distraction. It is said, that young ladies think an old bachelor feels nothing even when pins are run into his legs; but here is a man, who pierced with anguish and tortured with distraction, has no more feeling than a stock-fish. He is a grave conjuror, who delivers his mouth of pins as he would of parables, and speaks fire and ribbons with the same undisturbed countenance. The address to the "hot and rolling sun," the anguish with which *Octavian* talks of his lost mistress, and the ardent felicity which he is supposed to feel in enjoying her company when he regains her, were all reduced to one scale of temperature; so that if the performance was a picture of madness, it was the actor's and not the character's insanity, and I am perfectly willing to acknowledge that when *Octavian* had such reason to be mad, Mr. KEMBLE must have been utterly mad to be so reasonable. The audience could by no means comprehend an indifference so unaccountable, and three different conjectures were passed upon the phenomenon; first, that he was indisposed; second, that he was chagrined at the remarkable thinness of the house, and therefore disdained to exhibit his powers; and, third, that he was reserving himself for the climax of the latter scenes; for it seems he has a favourite scheme of regulating nature by a stop-watch, and of resolving not to feel any thing till eight or nine o'clock. At length they were so annoyed that they fairly hissed, and then the actor made an appeal to their feelings by a fit of coughing, which was indeed so truly painful, that it arrested at once their ridicule and their disapprobation. But the truth is, that neither the cough, nor the thin house, nor the reservation, had any thing to do with the evening's entertainment. If Mr. KEMBLE could act, he should have done his best, had there been but three boxes full in the house; and if he could not, if he was too ill to do his duty, he should not have acted at all. The play was not the announcement of the moment; it had been chosen more than a week before; and even if it had not, there was Mr. YOUNG *at hand*, who would have performed the *youthful* and *amorous* maniac twenty times as well.

The new after-piece, *A School for Authors*, is said to be a production of the late Mr. TOBIN. It is the story of an old tradesman who has turned dramatist, and under the mixed feelings of triumph and apprehension, induces the lover of his niece to father the play. *Wormwood*, a critic, the rival of *Cleveland*, after abusing the piece to the old gentleman's private ear, lays a plan for its damnation, which succeeds; and when he affects to condole with the former, is interrupted with an outrageous disclosure of the whole affair by the real author; while, at the same time, his fortunate rival announces himself as the writer of a successful piece at the other house. The main part of this adventure, together with the principal characters, is copied from FOOTE's comedy of the *Patron*, which was copied from MARMONTEL's *Tales;* and there is as little originality in the rest, for *Wormwood* is but a hypocritical transcript of *Sneer* in the *Critic*, and the belles-lettres footman, a very unnatural personage, is a caricature of the valets in *Gil Blas* and other old novels. From all this imitative spirit, I should think it was one of the earlier productions of Mr. TOBIN, who, even in his best pieces, endeavoured, to all appearance, to bring back the stage from its present state of second childhood into a real boyhood, though a very promising one. One of the best touches in the piece, is the equivoque between the old gentleman, who is waiting the event of his first night, and his warehouseman, who frightens him very much by announcing a catastrophe, which turns out to be *nothing but a fire* in his city storerooms. There was also a touch of real wit, which, if it belongs to any of the Covent-Garden authors, who are said to have done something in the piece, they would do well to claim:—The old gentleman in his hour of inspiration is compared to a rusty conductor waiting for a flash of lightning,—a simile which from the impassive nature of the inspired object and the coldness with which it at once receives and extinguishes the flame, is lively in all it's bearings. In short, the *School for Authors*, from it's mere imitation of good writers, is a good thing in a bad age; but in point of authorship has added nothing to the reputation of Mr. TOBIN.

The representation was excellent throughout. Miss NORTON, whose talent is evidently on the side of comedy, gets rid of her monotony in the bustle of the livelier feelings, and she performed the part of the heroine with a very pleasing archness, though her ironical flattery was of too triumphant a gaiety perhaps for any object but a vain old author. The humour of MUNDEN in the old gentleman was excellent and legitimate, for he had a legitimate opportunity of using it, and had no puns to work up into something facetious by the mere force of his jaws. The agitated triumph with which he announced to *Cleveland* that the play was his, and the nervousness with which he beat the side of the chair, on which he sat, vaccillating his hand against it at arm's length, were worthy of GARRICK himself. Even Mr. BRUNTON, in the young author, bore his share in the general praise, as he always will if he confines himself to meek young men, a little enlivened with conceit. But he should really pay a little more attention to his words, and not say *ear* for *hear* as he did in the play, or "head of Cerberus and throats of Medusa," as he did in the farce. This is calling three one and one three.—Mr. FARLEY's *Wormwood* was perhaps rather too vivacious, but his genius is quite of the old notable order, always brightest in a bustle. As to Mr. DAVENPORT in the pathetic

warehouseman, he was truly impassioned. I want LISTON'S powers of expression here.—Impassioned DAVENPORT!

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## *THEATRICAL INDECORUM.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR—The opening of the Little Theatre in the Hay-market by the Covent-Garden Company, seems not to be attended with that success the managers anticipated. Those observations, so often repeated in many of the public prints, have in all likelihood had the desired effect of rousing that lethargic spirit that appeared to have seized the public mind. In short, Sir, the Covent-Garden Managers (I hope not too late) experience, what was expected by all thinking persons, that those unblushing evils, so much complained of, would sooner or later work their own downfal. This has been exemplified in the "beggarly account of empty boxes" that has been so visible this week, and is one of the strongest proofs of the temporary triumph of Prostitution and Indecency over Virtue and Modesty that ever could have occurred to open the eyes of the Conductors of this Theatre to their own welfare. It is however to be hoped, that this triumph will be but short-lived, and that it will tend ultimately to the prevention of these gross scenes that were last, and, I may add, have been every preceding season so predominant in all parts of this house—scenes that have forcibly driven the amiable part of the community and the most numerous from participating in theatrical amusements; and if continued, must deter every family of respectability and modesty from ever returning again. I therefore trust that this public indignation that has so early shewn itself, will have its due weight, in completing the discomfiture of immorality and profligacy, and that it will not be long ere beauty and virtue will resume their places unmolested and uninsulted.

Much I am *told* (for I do not wish to believe the thing possible) has been urged by the Proprietors, of the *pecuniary* services that unfortunate females are of to a theatre, from the inducement their attendance holds out to that of certain classes:—but base indeed must be the minds of those who, so as the accumulation of wealth is the *cause*, spurn at the *effect*; and disgraceful is it for those who should lend their aid to improve the morals of the community, and by holding up the mirror, "shew vice her own deformity," to be on the contrary accused of letting *avaricious* views tempt them to be the purveyors of indecorum and infamy.

It is very doubtful, however, that the continuance of the nuisance complained of is at all advantageous to the concern; on the contrary, there is the strongest presumption that it is not; and this has been experienced in one instance, if I may be allowed to judge by comparison; for much to the honour of the Proprietors of one of the summer places of amusement (Sadler's Wells) a regulation was lately accomplished there, that had every wished-for success. One or other of those Gentlemen, during the last season, regularly attended the box-door every night of performance, closely observing all who applied there, and those females of whose character there was *no doubt*, were peremptorily excluded, and such as of whom there might be *some doubt*, were, after entrance, particularly noticed, and if the least impropriety was discovered, a gentle hint was given that "their absence would be by no means disagreeable." The result of this regulation was, that for the most part of the season, the boxes were fully occupied by families of respectability, and upon winding up their accounts, the proprietors found that their nightly receipts, from the commencement of this judicious plan, had progressively encreased far beyond their most sanguine expectations. It therefore does not appear to me that any substantial reason can be given why the same arrangements might not be adopted in the more extensive concerns of Covent-Garden and Drury-Lane; and it would highly redound to the credit of those concerned in the management thereof, at least to make some effort towards a reformation so anxiously desired. At all events it would most assuredly be worth a trial; for though, considering the magnitude of these establishments, the object might not be attainable at once, yet measures might doubtless be adopted to remove the disgrace gradually, and ere long entirely crush it. I am, Sir, your very obedient Servant, W——.

## *FINE ARTS.*

### ELECTION OF A PROFESSOR OF ANATOMY TO THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

Is use to youthful Genius here their aim?
Can they the praise of equal Justice claim?
Ah, no! Genius and Justice cry—"For shame."

TO THE

### *MAJORITY OF THE ROYAL ACADEMICIANS.*

MESSRS. ACADEMICIANS,

You have succeeded in your election of Mr. Carlisle to the Anatomical Professorship, to the exclusion of his more competent competitor, Mr. Bell; but you have purchased your success at a very dear rate, at the expense of public respect, and the universal disgust and disadvantage of the Students, whose improvement you have slighted. Mr. Bell has given such public proofs of his superior endowments for the Professorship, that your conviction of them will justify this reproof even in your own breasts. You have evinced a disregard of public opinion as well as Academical duty, not only indelicate but audacious, for if they who disregard the reproof or approval of a single individual of judgment and of worth, may be justly deemed deficient in honourable feeling, what degree of insensibility to public esteem must not those possess whose conduct proves that they despise the approbation and the censure of a body of Students and of a discerning public? This is evident not in this instance merely, but in a series of instances. The EXAMINER has proved it formerly in your preference of inferior to older and more meritorious claims. The late election of Mr. R. Smirke, jun. in preference to other Candidates of longer standing and higher talent, was a contempt of justice, an affront to those worthy Candidates, and to the rising progeny of Art. But it is satisfac-

tory to observe that this unworthy conduct is receiving its due punishment; that enlightened, tasteful, and indignant individuals are determined to counteract its baneful tendency, and to bestow their patronage, with some exceptions, on untitled Professors. They begin to perceive that in the Arts, as in our Army, and our enormously encreased Nobility, merit must not be estimated by a high sounding title, which is very often a perpetual irony; that an Ass is still a very dull beast though his *rider* may call him *Bucephalus*; that a noble Lord is often a very ignoble person; that a Commander in Chief may be a dead and disgustful weight on the shoulders of a nation, and that a Royal Academician and an Associate may look very important in Capital letters in an Exhibition Catalogue, while his insignificancy is exhibited in true colours on spoiled canvass in the Exhibition Rooms. Such men are excrescencies in the Royal Academy, and worse. They are like mishapen clumps in a fine edifice, which deface its beauty and degrade its dignity. They are a perversion of the law of the Academy, which says, that the "Academicians and Associates shall be men of *high reputation* in their several professions." Your rejection of Mr. Bell is a similar violation of the spirit of another law of the Academy, which says, "There shall be a Professor of Anatomy who shall read annually six public lectures in the Royal Academy, *adapted to the Arts of Design.*" Will any man then, "who walks without a keeper," affirm that Mr. Carlisle, *a mere Anatomist*, is equally competent to such lectures with Mr. Bell, who is not only an Anatomist, but a Practical Designer in Art, superior even to some of the Academical Members, who has presented the scientific and tasteful public a book expressly on Anatomy as "adapted to the Arts of Design;" a book of such anatomical and *graphic* excellence, as should of itself have prompted the Academy, for its own sake, and the honour and advantage of the Arts, to have exulted in so rare an acquisition, and to have *solicited* Mr. Bell's acceptance of the Anatomical Professorship, had he not presented himself for that office. How criminal then has been their conduct, when solicited in favour of Mr. Bell, not only by that gentleman himself, but by the public through its invaluable organ the Press, to reject so rare an union of talent for a mere Surgical Professor. The EXAMINER repeats what it said on the unfair election of the last Associate, that there was a want of gentlemanly feeling in this election, because a gentleman will always act with becoming respect for superior merit, and with unimpeachable propriety. But here, not only respect for superior merit and gentleman-like propriety, but justice itself was outraged, and the Arts neglected. The consequences will be, however, what always follows such misconduct. The prosperity of the Academical Members is impaired, and the finger of public scorn is pointed at them. The EXAMINER challenges any or all who voted against Mr. Bell to invalidate the truth of this Address, and to substantiate the superior claims of Mr. Carlisle. This, Messrs. Academicians, you owe to your own character and to your favourite, to relieve him from the awkward situation in which you have placed him, that of being exposed to the public charge of holding a public office to the rejection of a man of greater competency, and the unanimous wishes and benefit of those for whom the office is to be exercised. If you do this, the EXAMINER will with pleasure readily retract his error. If you do not, you will, in your silence, stand convicted of the guilt with which you are arraigned, and the EXAMINER, the Students of the Academy, and Public, before whom so serious a charge is preferred, will have an additional and decisive proof of your misconduct. A becoming feeling of self-respect and of public purity of character, with which men should be actuated who assume the situation and rank of Gentlemen, and, as Artists, Gentlemen of refinement, are additional reasons for your disproving also the public rumour, that you are not only tamely ruled by the arbitrary will of two or three of your body, but that you have been unduly influenced by the solicitations and interested attentions of the successful candidate, means to which his defeated but more dignified rival would not condescend; and that you have not violated your honour and a law of the Academy, by any previous promise long since made to Mr. Carlisle. In fine, that you have in this affair conscienciously acquitted yourselves of your duty to the Arts.

R. H.

## *FRENCH DIGNITIES.*

| | |
|---|---|
| The Prince Arch-Chancellor of the Empire (Cambaceres).... | Duke of Parma. |
| The Prince Arch-Treasurer (Le Brun) ..... | —— of Piacenza. |
| Talleyrand..... | Prince of Benevento. |
| Cardinal Fesch ..... | —— Primate. |
| Marshal Berthier ..... | —— Neufchatel. |
| —— Bernadotte..... | —— Ponte Corvo. |
| —— Moncey..... | Duke of Cornegliano. |
| —— Massena ..... | —— of Rivoli. |
| —— Augereau ..... | —— of Castiglione. |
| —— Soult ..... | —— of Dalmatia. |
| —— Lannes..... | —— of Montebello. |
| —— Mortier ..... | —— of Treviso. |
| —— Ney..... | —— of Elchingen. |
| —— Davoust ..... | —— of Auerstadt. |
| —— Bessieres ..... | —— of Istria. |
| —— Victor ..... | —— of Belluna. |
| —— Lefebvre ..... | —— of Dantzic. |
| —— Kellerman ..... | —— of Valmy. |
| *COLONELS-GENERAL.* | |
| Marshal Marmont..... | Duke of Ragusa. |
| —— Junot ..... | —— of Abrantes. |
| *GREAT OFFICERS OF THE CROWN.* | |
| Caulaincourt, Great Chamberlain | Duke of Vicenza. |
| Duroc, Great Marshal of the Palace ..... | —— of Frione. |
| *GENERALS.* | |
| Savary ..... | Duke of Rovigo. |
| Arrighi ..... | —— of Padua. |

[The foregoing List shews how NAPOLEON rewards with titles and dignities those Frenchmen who by their talents and activity have deserved advancement and honour:—The following List exhibits a most wretched contrast indeed—it shews the deplorable manner in which many of the British youth, and those too of rank and property, degrade that rank and waste that property in pursuits the most frivolous and contemptible. Why, the very beasts they drive possess

more sagacity and are entitled to more respect—yet such men can buy Boroughs and become Legislators, though Nature designed them only for hackney drivers and helpers in the stable.]

## *ENGLISH PURSUITS.*

### PRESENT STATE OF THE WHIP CLUB.

*Leader*—Charles Buxton, Esq.

Second in command ..... Lord Hawke.
Third ..... John Rogers, Esq.
Fourth ..... Humphrey Butler, Esq.
Fifth ..... Captain Agar.
Sixth ..... Hon. Martin Hawke, Esq.
Seventh ..... Massey Dawson, Esq.
Eighth ..... Sir Harry Vane Tempest.
Ninth ..... Stephen Atkinson, Esq.
Tenth ..... Henry Osbaldestone, Esq.
Eleventh ..... Paul Methuen, Esq.
Twelfth ..... Lord Clinton.
Thirteenth ..... Hon. Lincoln Stanhope.
Fourteenth ..... John Harrison, Esq.

COSTUME FOR THE YEAR 1809.—A dark green mixture coat, with *three tier of pockets* as before, made very long and full in the front; skirts even unto the ancles. A mother-of-pearl button of the size of a half-crown piece; the collar full and of the same cloth. Waistcoat yellow and green, striped alternately. Small-clothes, the Peyton-cord, cut up to the armpits, and longitudinally over the swell of the calf; silk strings, and pearl buttons. Boots of the jockey kind extending high enough to meet the garters of the breeches, with long straps cut very broad. Hat of *drab beaver*, five inches and a half deep, by four on the brim.—There is one material alteration, since last season, viz. the coach and four in hand, instead of being engraven on the buttons, is now only to be introduced on the seals attached to the watches of the Members.—(*Morning Post.*)

## *MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.*

### BOARD OF INQUIRY.

*EIGHTH DAY.*—*DEC.* 6.

The Court resumed its functions at the accustomed hour of meeting, and after deliberating for half an hour, adjourned over till Tuesday next.

## *CITY.*

On Thursday the LORD MAYOR held a Court of Common Council. His Lordship addressed the Court, thanking them for the high honour to which they had raised him; assuring them of every exertion in his power being used to fill the dignified situation to their satisfaction and his own credit.

### A WARNING TO LORD MAYORS.

Mr. Deputy HALYER then moved a Vote of Thanks to John Ansley, Esq. late Lord Mayor, for the zeal, ability, and integrity, displayed by him in the execution of the duties of that important station; for his liberality in patronizing the various public Charities about the metropolis; for the elegant hospitality with which he entertained the Spanish Deputies, so expressive of the wishes of the City of London in the success of their cause; for his uniform hospitality in the general discharge of his duties as Lord Mayor; and for the easy access to his person at all times afforded to that Court, and to the Livery of London.

This motion being seconded,

Mr. QUIN said, it gave him the most exquisite pain, experiencing, as he had, in a very particular degree, the attention of the late Lord Mayor, to be under the necessity of declaring, that he could not totally concur in the Vote of Thanks as it now stood. He could not, however, look at the Report of a Committee of the Members of that Court to whom it had been referred to look into the case of a citizen of the name of Gristy, who, having been impressed in the City of London, had, by his Lordship's order, during his Mayoralty, been carried on board the tender, without feeling with that Committee that a grosser violation of the liberties and franchises of the Citizens of London had therein been committed, than at any former period. Not only was the violation practised on a Citizen of London, within the bounds of the City; but the Chief Magistrate, the Guardian of its independence and privileges, had, by his own warrant, sacrificed its dearest rights and franchises, in ordering one of the freemen of the city, so unjustly impressed, to be committed to prison, and afterwards to be sent on board of the tender!—How could he (Mr. Quin), sitting in that Court as one of the Guardians of the rights of his fellow-citizens, vote the thanks of those Citizens to a Chief Magistrate who had thus violated the dearest privilege of Englishmen!—Or how could he commend the zeal, ability, and integrity of one who, however he might in private life possess all of these qualities in full perfection, had, publicly speaking, exhibited no signs of any of the three!—There was, however, a circumstance which, more than any other, seemed to him to preclude the possibility of the Court's concurring in this address as it stood: the Committee before alluded to had, in an after Report, certified that the father of the man thus deprived of his privileges, had, in regaining the liberty of his son, and in other consequent expences, incurred a loss of 45l. 10s. which the Committee expressed their opinion ought to be paid by the Lord Mayor. Of this, however, he had refused to pay a single shilling, and the expence incurred by this poor man had, in consequence, been defrayed out of the Chamber of the City. He asked, were the thanks of the Common Council of the City of London to be esteemed as worth something or worth nothing?—Were they to be conferred on those Magistrates who deserved them, or to be esteemed a passing wind which blew equally on every man invested with civic preferment? The City of London had some dignity to support. He hoped, therefore, the latter was not the fair criterion by which to estimate their approbation. If the former, it was impossible, he thought, with however much reluctance he confessed it, that they could vote their unqualified approbation of the conduct of the late Lord Mayor. He should therefore move for the omission of the first paragraph of the proposed vote, thanking the late Lord Mayor for his "zeal, ability, and integrity." He, however, afterwards changed his motion into the previous question, and latterly, allowed it to go on a negative to the Address.

Mr. JACKS heartily concurred in every thing which had fallen from the worthy Gentleman (Mr. Quin). Was it to be understood that the Court of Common Council were to pass a Vote of Thanks to their Chief Magistrate as a matter of course, as they often did to their Chaplain for his most excellent Sermon, which, probably not one of them had read? There were other points in which, if common rumour could be attended to, the zeal of the late Lord Mayor was not over conspicuous. It was stated, that for several days running (a thing never known before), he had entirely quitted the Mansion-House, and it was also said, that the hours set aside there for the administration of justice were not over pointedly attended to. His Lordship was also proposed to be complimented on the easy access to his person. If he were to judge from himself on two occasions only, when it was incumbent on him to call at the Mansion-House, he must give the negative to this statement; for had he gone there suing in *forma pauperis*, he could not have been received with more repulsive stateliness.

Mr. Alderman BIRCH begged it to be observed, that the present was not a new question, but one which had

been repeatedly fully discussed; and he submitted it to the candour and feelings of the Court, and of the Hon. Gentleman who had brought forward the subject anew, if it would not have been more honourable, fair, and manly to have proposed a vote of censure on the late Lord Mayor at the time the question was fully before the Court, when he was present, and had an opportunity of vindicating himself, rather than to bring it forward in the invidious way in which it must now operate. If he recollected well, the late Lord Mayor had, when the matter was formerly before the Court, expressed his regret for the part he had acted, and on that occasion the Court, in the feeling of the moment, had voted the 45l. of expences out of the Chamber fund. He therefore understood that the business was settled, and was to be considered as having proceeded, as he was satisfied it had, from an error in judgment.

Mr. WAITHMAN was satisfied the late Lord Mayor had not intentionally erred; that he had taken some other advice besides his own opinion on the subject to which reference had been made. This, however, was still no excuse. It became men who sought for the high honour of ascending the Civic Chair in the City of London, either to be themsemselves competent to judge of the important duties they had undertaken, or to look well to the advice by which they were to act. It was not sufficient to tell their fellow-citizens, after they had surrendered, or rather with their own hands had robbed them of the dearest privilege of Englishmen, that they had acted from an error in judgment, or had taken bad advice. He hoped, however, it would be a caution to other Chief Magistrates how they acted, and with whom they advised.

On the shew of hands, the Recorder declared it to be the opinion of the Lord Mayor, that the Vote of Thanks was carried. A division, however, was demanded, and on counting the numbers there appeared—For the Vote of Thanks 47—Against it 59—Majority against the Vote of Thanks 12.

## CITY PROMPTITUDE.

The Citizens, with their usual promptitude and judgment, met on Friday last, and entered into a Subscription for the purpose of supplying the Spanish Troops with cloathing and other necessaries, of which it appears they *were* deplorably in want. Alderman ROWCROFT read a letter from Mr. PERCIVAL, which stated that Government had already provided large supplies of clothing, and *now* they were procuring supplies of shoes, between 40 and 50,000 pair a-month, for the Spanish armies.—A Committee was appointed, and a subscription was entered into, which in less than an hour amounted to more than 10,000l. It is hardly necessary to observe, that this might have been of use *three months ago*; but now, when the Spanish armies are entirely dispersed, if not annihilated, it is really quite ridiculous. Where are the Spanish armies to be found? Before the supplies can possibly reach Spain, the whole country will be covered with the legions of NAPOLEON.

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*A FEW SPECIMENS OF THE IGNORANCE, VANITY, SELFISHNESS, INDECENCY, AND IMPIETY, OF ONE*

## WILLIAM HUNTINGDON,

OF PROVIDENCE CHAPEL,

*(Extracted from his own book, the BANK of FAITH.)*

[The Readers of the *EXAMINER* will find some amusement, if nothing else, in the following extracts. They will exhibit in its true colours the character of this pretender, who, after filling the honest callings of a day-labourer, a coal-heaver, and a cobbler, had the assurance to commence teacher of divinity, at Providence Chapel, where he constantly outrages even the most common rules of grammar in addressing a numerous congregation of enthusiasts. This man's sole object, as his works fully prove, has been that of amassing wealth; and he has succeeded, for he now keeps his coach and his country-house. Though somewhat advanced in life, he has not wholly weaned himself from the delights of the flesh, for he recently, to the scandal of some of his flock, took a *second* wife, in the person of *Lady Sanderson* (widow of the late Lord Mayor of that name), who has long been a wanderer in the thorny paths of Methodism.]

"Having now had my horse for some time, and riding a great deal every week, I soon wore my breeches out, as they were not fit to ride in. I hope the reader will excuse my mentioning the word breeches, which I should have avoided, had not this passage of scripture obtruded into my mind, just as I had resolved in my own thoughts not to mention this kind providence of God.—*And thou shalt make them linen breeches to cover their nakedness; from the loins even unto the thighs shall they reach. And they shall be upon Aaron and upon his sons when they come into the tabernacle of the congregation, or when they come near unto the altar to minister in the holy place; that they bear not iniquity and die. It shall be a statute for ever unto him and his seed after him.* Exod. xxviii. 42, 43.—By which, and three others (namely, Ezek. xliv. 18; Lev. vi. 10; and Lev. xvi. 4.), I saw that it was no crime to mention the word breeches, nor the way in which God sent them to me; Aaron and his sons being clothed entirely by Providence; and as God himself condescended to give orders what they should be made of, and how they should be cut. And I believe the same God ordered mine, as I trust it will appear in the following history:—

The Scripture tells us to call no man master, for one is our master, even Christ. I therefore told my most bountiful and ever-adored Master what I wanted; and he, who stripped Adam and Eve of their fig-leaved aprons, and made coats of skins and cloathed them; and who clothes the grass of the field, which to-day is and to-morrow is cast into the oven; must clothe us, or we shall soon go naked;—and so Israel found it, when God took away his wool and his flax, which he gave to cover their nakedness, and which they prepared for Baal: for which iniquity was their skirts discovered, and their heels made bare. Jer. xiii. 22.

"I often made very free in my prayers with my invaluable Master for this favour; but he still kept me so amazingly poor that I could not get them at any rate. At last I was determined to go to a friend of mine at Kingston, who is of that branch of business, to bespeak a pair; and to get him to trust me until my Master sent me money to pay him. I was that day going to London, fully determined to bespeak them, as I rode through the town. However, when I passed the shop I forgot it; but when I came to London I called on Mr. Croucher, a shoemaker in Shepherd's-market, who told me a parcel was left there for me, but what it was he knew not. I opened it, and behold there was a pair of leather breeches with a note in them! the substance of which was, to the best of my remembrance, as follows:—

'Sir—I have sent you a pair of breeches, and hope they will fit. I beg your acceptance of them; and, if they want any alteration, leave in a note what the alteration is, and I will call in a few days and alter them.

'J. S.'

"I tried them on, and they fitted as well as if I had been measured for them: at which I was amazed, having never been measured by any leather breeches-maker in London. I wrote an answer to the note to this effect:—

'Sir—I received your present, and I thank you for it. I was going to order a pair of leather breeches to be made, because I did not know till now that my Master had be-

spoke them of you. They fit very well, which fully convinces me that the same God, who moved thy heart to give, guided thy hand to cut; because he perfectly knows my size, having clothed me in a miraculous manner for near five years. When you are in trouble, Sir, I hope you will tell my Master of this, and what you have done for me, and he will repay you with honour.'

"This is as near as I am able to relate it; and I added, 'I cannot make out I. S. unless I put I for Israelite indeed, and S for Sincerity; because you did not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do.'

*(To be continued.)*

## *LAW.*

### COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

*Saturday, Dec. 3.*

SCHRIEDER AND WIFE *v.* HUNTER.

This was an action for compensation for an assault on Mrs. Schrieder, servant to a Mrs. Murray, who lodged in the house of the defendant.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said, that Mr. and Mrs. Murray had taken the lodgings as man and wife, but they were not so, although the defendant had then every reason to believe they were. Capt. Terry had a child under Mrs. Murray's care, which he visited. He slept in the house on the night of the assault in the bed of a servant, who then slept with her mistress. Some time in the night the defendant chose to say he suspected there was a thief in the house, came up to the door of Mrs. Murray, and made a violent noise; on which the plaintiff came out to assure him, that Capt. Terry was no thief, but was in a bed by himself in her room, which Mrs. Murray had got up and locked, fearing mischief might ensue from his coming out in a passion. The defendant presented a pistol at the head of the plaintiff, who, in consequence of terror, spit blood, and was still ill. The defendant had been punished for the assault by a month's imprisonment.

Mrs. Murray swore to the above, and that Capt. Terry and herself had not been improperly acquainted, but admitted that she was not married to Mr. Murray; that she was a widow when she first knew that person, who had assumed her maiden name; that she had been married to Capt. Thornber, but whom she left on finding him the husband of another; that she had passed as a Mrs. Hope in Titchfield-street, but had never *died* there, that is, that she had not published in the papers the death of Mrs. Hope, &c.; that Capt. Terry had a child by her maid, and on *that* account had taken it under her care; that she did not know where the Capt. was, but would try to find him. She then related what she *swore* at the Sessions, of which she was told she should *hear again.*

Mr. PARK produced a model of the staircase, proving that what Mrs. M. said she saw from above was visibly impossible. He said that the defendant had got rid of her as soon as he could after discovering her character, for he was a most worthy and respectable man.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL assented to the suggestion of Lord Ellenborough to withdraw a Juror, so that each party should pay their own costs; but the defendant agreed to it with much reluctance, being indignant at having been made the subject of an indictment, and alledging that he could *contradict* most materially, *by evidence*, the testimony of the pretended Mrs Murray.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH said, that was an evil which could not *now* be removed.

*Monday, Dec. 5.*

HOWELLS *v.* CHARLES.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL opened this case, which was an action by Mary Howells against the defendant for a breach of promise of marriage. The defendant had an estate of 100*l.* a-year, and was a farmer and timber-merchant at Landrysi, in Monmouthshire. The plaintiff was the daughter of an honest farmer in Monmouth, and was courted by the defendant for some time. In March 1806, he made a deliberate proposal of marriage, and the plaintiff's father said, that if he would make a proper settlement, he, the father, would give her 100*l.* down, and 200*l.* at his death. The defendant then called on the plaintiff's father, and left the title deeds of his estate with him. The defendant afterwards became enamoured of a blacksmith's daughter, to whom it was reported that he was married, and the plaintiff upon conversing with one of her friends upon this attachment, said, if he liked the blacksmith's daughter, he might have her, she could get a better man to wipe her shoes at any time. Subsequently to this, the father, in conversation with the defendant, told him, that he had heard that he had had a child by the blacksmith's daughter, when he very properly said to the defendant, that he thought she was the proper woman for him to marry, and that he had better, if so, make her an honest woman. At that time he denied the fact of his marriage, and renewed the courtship, and went to buy a ring and some gloves for her for favours. After this it was discovered, that the defendant was actually married before the last promise to the plaintiff.

The case being proved on the part of the plaintiff,

Mr. GARROW addressed the Jury for the defendant, and endeavoured to shew that the plaintiff had coquetted and flirted with another man, a cousin, whom she declared she liked better. He also relied upon the plaintiff's having released the defendant from his promise.

Upon the witnesses being called, it appeared that the defendant had come first to the plaintiff's father, at a merry meeting at Christmas, 1805, and then the plaintiff had sat upon her cousin's knee, and behaved with some degree of female levity.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL in his reply, shewed that happened before the promise of marriage made by the defendant.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH in summing up the evidence, applauded the conduct of the plaintiff and her father, upon first hearing of the attachment of the defendant to his present wife. But the action was chiefly founded upon the second promise of marriage, to which there could be no answer.

The Jury gave a verdict for the plaintiff, damages 150*l.*

*Tuesday, Dec. 6.*

CHAMBERS, ESQ. *v.* JONES, ESQ.

This was an action against the Marshal of the King's Bench Prison for an escape, in the person of Wm. Caulfield, Esq. who had been committed to his custody in execution for the sum of 2120*l.* the amount of the damages and costs awarded the plaintiff in an action against Mr. Caulfield, for criminal conversation with his wife. The defendant pleaded that he was ignorant of such escape, and that, on the contrary, he retained the said W. Caulfield in custody and kept him safe until he died.

Mr. SCARLETT stated the case to the Jury, and observed, that Mr. Caulfield, instead of paying the damages awarded by a Jury for an injury done to the plaintiff, chose rather to go to gaol. The plaintiff, however, soon found out that Capt. Caulfield was again mixing in the fashionable world, and, by obtaining the rules of the prison, he was not only enabled to abuse and deceive the Marshal, but to defeat the object sought by the action.—He did not mean to infer that the defendant knew of the fact; on the contrary, he was sure that he believed him to be living strictly and correctly within the rules. When Mr. Caulfield obtained the rules, he hired a lodging at No. 15, Melina-place, St. George's-fields; but instead of confining himself to the prescribed limits, he thought proper to ramble about to all parts of the town. He visited Mrs. Chambers, in Bryanstone-street; and, in short, was seldom or ever at his lodgings within the rules, till, at last, his health being greatly impaired, he went to Hampton

Court, where he died. The plaintiff understanding he had thus been at large, procured proper evidence to substantiate the fact, and now brought his action for the escape.

The facts stated by Mr. Scarlett were then proved in evidence, with the additional testimony of Dr. Blackburne, who visited Mr. Caulfield during his illness at Hampton, and saw him after he was in his coffin, and sent back in secret to Melina-place. It was also proved that Mr. Caulfield was seldom or ever at his lodgings in St. George's-fields, and neither a Gentleman who resided in the same house, nor the servant-maid in the family, had ever seen him.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said, the defendant, who was an Officer of that Court, had heard the evidence against him, and felt that he could give no answer likely to remove the liability from his shoulders; all that he could say was, that he had done nothing but what the law authorized him in doing, and that he had been abused and deceived by Caulfield. He had not the smallest knowledge of his being without the verge of the prison.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH said, the question was, whether the defendant had kept Mr. Caulfield safe, and detained him in prison; and notwithstanding the case might bear hard upon the defendant, if he had not, the plaintiff had a right to a verdict for an escape.

The Jury found for the plaintiff, by which he will get the 2000l. damages for his wife's infidelity, and costs of suit.

*Wednesday, Dec. 7.*

THE KING v. ALEX. DAVISON, ESQ.

This was an information filed, *ex officio*, by the Attorney-General, charging the defendant with a fraud in his contract with the Barrack Department, and the fraud charged was, that he being a contractor to purchase barrack stores from the meters or dealers, for which he was to have 2½ per cent. as a full remuneration, supplied the articles himself; and in order to conceal that fact, produced false vouchers, purporting that he had bought them of others, by which he defrauded the public of the 2½ per cent. allowed as a commission, for his judgment on the articles purchased.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL stated the case, and observed, that the defendant was employed to purchase articles of others, and that the 2½ per cent. was intended to reward him for being a check upon those who furnished the articles wanted, but if he furnished them himself, it was clear the public derived no benefit from his judgment, as it was then his interest as a seller to get the highest price he could for his wares. It was in the year 1794 that the defendant entered into a contract with Gen. De Lancey, then Barrack-Master General, to purchase barrack stores. He was to purchase them, to ship them to the place where wanted, to insure them, and to stand the loss of bad articles, and for this his compensation was to be a commission of 2½ per cent. on the whole amount of his purchases, which would amount to a considerable sum annually. He went on in the regular execution of his contract, until the year 1797, and from the Christmas 1797, for nine successive half years, it appeared that he furnished the goods himself, but he nevertheless claimed, and charged his commission, but in order to conceal the fact, he fabricated vouchers and receipts, as though the goods had been purchased of other persons, and he should prove that the names of Watson and Sheddon, who were returned to the Barrack Board as the names of the persons from whom he purchased them, were the names of two of his own clerks, then living in his service. The whole of these facts he said would appear by the production of the accounts rendered. It was true the defendant had afterwards applied to rectify this overcharge, but it was not until the Commissioners of Inquiry had raised his fears by the inquiries which were taking place into the abuses of Public Offices.

The accounts of the half year, from June 1797, to June 1798, were put in and verified. By these it appeared, that the articles furnished were stated to be bought of one Watson, and the receipt and bill of parcels, purporting to be Watson's, were produced.

T. Allen, a clerk in the house of Davison, was called, and he proved that the articles in that account were really furnished by Davison; that Watson was a young man, a clerk to Davison; and that he had made out and signed all the vouchers in Watson's name, by the direction of Davison.—This being the case on the part of the Crown,

Mr. DALLAS, for the defendant, addressed the Jury in a very impressive and elegant speech. He insisted on the high character of the defendant, and that the public had not suffered in any degree, as he had furnished every article below the market price. He admitted by the agreement in 1794 he was but a mere agent, but he should call Gen. De Lancey, who would prove that by his direction and privity Mr. Davison afterwards furnished from his own stores, because he found a difficulty in expeditiously supplying the various barracks then lately built. With respect to the receipts and bills of parcels being made in the name of Watson, he would call another clerk of the name of Bowring, who would state it was done at his suggestion, as it would appear inconsistent, that Mr. Davison should be made debtor to himself. The Learned Counsel also argued, that it was not merely for the exercise of his judgement that he was to receive 2½ per cent. for he was to forward the goods, to insure them, to indemnify against losses, &c. all which he was as much bound to do, whether he bought the goods or furnished them from his own stores.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH called the attention of Mr. Dallas to the answer of Mr. Davison before the Commissioners of Inquiry. When being asked if there was any other agreement between him and Gen. De Lancy than the one in writing, he said, "None."

Mr. DALLAS observed, however that fact might appear on the Report, it was certain there was a subsequent agreement, and he was sure Gen. De Lancy, as a man of honour, would so state; and concluded a very able speech by imploring the Jury to attend only to the evidence adduced, and not to any thing they might have heard elsewhere.

Gen. De Lancy was called. He stated the original contract in 1794, and spoke highly of Mr. Davison. In 1797, in consequence of the increase of barracks, and from wanting a ready supply of stores, he agreed that Mr. Davison should furnish from his own warehouse in Bedford-street. He passed the accounts, because they all appeared regular on the face of them.—On cross-examination, he said he should not have allowed the 2½ per cent. on the articles furnished by Mr. Davison himself; but as it appeared on the account they were bought of Watson, the commission was of course allowed.

—— Bowring, clerk to Mr. Davison, stated, that he kept the accounts. He made up and rendered the half-yearly barrack accounts. He stated the articles furnished by Mr. Davison as bought of Watson; and he did so, because he thought it would look absurd to make Mr. Davison buy of himself, on the face of a bill. He did it by Mr. Davison's direction. Watson was then a young clerk in the house. In 1802, he thought it was doubtful whether they ought to have charged commission on those articles furnished by themselves, and he mentioned it to Mr. Davison, who said, "Very well, then rectify the accounts in that point;" and added, "he would rather commit an error on the right side." After that, they did not charge commission. On cross-examination, he admitted that he manufactured several half-year's bills of parcels and receipts at once in Watson's name, to give colour to the account rendered to the Barrack Board. They were signed by Allen for Watson, who was absent.

He afterwards, in 1802, applied to the Barrack Board to get the accounts back, in order to strike out the commission; but they would not return the accounts, as they were made up and passed. But Mr. Steinbach, the Accountant, told him, if there was any error, to give credit for it in a supplemental account. When he reported this to Mr. Davison, he told the witness to bear it in mind.—(The supplemental account was then shewn the witness, in which no credit was given). He said that error was entirely his own; the account had been made up by him in haste; he had been absent ill from the counting-house, and when he returned his eyes were bad, and he had overlooked it. After they had ceased to charge commission, they did not use the name of fictitious sellers, but made Mr. Davison debtor to the house in Bedford-street.

Mr. Steinbach, Accountant to the Barrack Department, recollected an application made in 1802, to get back the accounts, but he refused, as they were passed by Gen. De Lancy. He said if there were any error they might give credit on a supplemental sheet. He was sure he was never told that the error was an improper charge of commission.

Several witnesses were then called to the character of Mr. Davison, among whom were the Earl of Moira, Sir A. S. Hammond, Sir Evan Nepean, the Hon. Wellesley Pole, Sir Wm. Rule, Surveyor of the Navy, and several others, who all spoke highly of Mr. Davison, and stated several instances where he had served the public in a most disinterested manner.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL then made a most forcible reply, in which he contended, the facts proved were incontrovertible evidence of a fraudulent intention; and with respect to the pretended desire of setting the mistake right, it never was manifested until the public investigation was going forward, in a manner that might well inspire the defendant with a fear of detection.

After the Learned Judge had summed up the evidence in a most circumstantial manner, and remarked on the bearings of every part, the Jury, after some deliberation, found a verdict of—Guilty.

## SHERIFF'S COURT, COLEMAN-STREET, DEC. 9.

### WOOD v. MATHEWS.

This was an action of Crim. Con. and a Jury was assembled before Mr. Collinrige, the Secondary, to assess the damages, the defendant having suffered judgment by default. This was not one of those fashionable cases that *grace* the matrimonial infidelities of polished life, though equally pregnant with ingratitude and falsehood. The defendant is a baker in the Borough, and the plaintiff a shipwright, and foreman to a dock-yard at Blackwall. They were, besides, friends and acquaintances. The plaintiff also resided in the Borough, and was accustomed to return home every Wednesday and Saturday. Some familiarities had been observed by the friends of the parties, as passing between the defendant and Mrs. Woods, which came to the knowledge of the defendant's wife, who was greatly enraged at her husband's neglect and imprudence. She immediately acquainted the plaintiff with what she had heard, but he could not be persuaded of his wife's infidelity, and attributed the fears of Mrs. Mathews to jealousy. One Monday, however, having quitted his work at an early hour, he resolved on coming to town; but on reaching home between ten and eleven at night, he was surprised at finding his house closely locked up, and his family in bed. He called to the watchman, and with his assistance opened a back window, through which he and the guardian of the night entered. On going into his bedchamber, he discovered his wife and Mathews asleep in the same bed. The husband was petrified with astonishment, and the watchman, alarmed for the consequences, sprung his rattle. The criminals awaked from their trance, and, leaping from the bed, fled out of the room, naked as they were. The neighbours assembled, who interposing, saved both the culprits from his violence.

Mr. ESPINASSE made a pathetic appeal to the Jury, and emphatically remarked, that the poor man's best comfort was his home. The defendant, however, had robbed him of that, his only solace, and had made him an object for the finger of scorn to point at.

One of the witnesses stated, that a friend had interposed between the parties, and proposed, on behalf of the defendant, to give the plaintiff 30*l*. and to drop an action he had commenced against him for money lent, which amounted to no inconsiderable sum.

The Secondary observed, that the offer made was probably the fit measure of damages, and recommended the plaintiff to consider of it. The debt due was upwards of 200*l*.

A conversation then took place between the friends of the contending parties, and a verdict of 30*l*. was taken, the defendant agreeing to drop his action for the debt.

## *ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.*

On Tuesday evening, a Gentleman alighted from his horse near the end of Bond-street, in Oxford-street, and a youth, 14 years of age, of the name of Towes, the son of a tradesman in Hanover-yard, took charge of the animal, and was cautioned not to mount. The youth, however, disregarded the caution, and rode the horse into Cavendish-square, where the animal got the better of him. The boy had got his feet into the stirrup leathers, and on being thrown he was dragged several hundred yards, by the horse going at speed; his head was literally dashed to pieces, and on being taken up in Oxford-street, there was no signs of life. The youth had been sent on an errand to Marylebone-lane.

On Tuesday night the son of a respectable tradesman in Gracechurch-street, put an end to his existence, by shooting himself. The cause is thought to have been a disappointment in love.

OLD BAILEY.—On Tuesday sentence was passed on the following prisoners:—Mary Ann Parker, John Clark, Mary Gee, Mary Curtis, Timothy Waldon, Wm. Whitton, James Hankey, Wm. Clark, John Flinn, Moses Copeland, Robert Fenton *alias* R. Atkinson Fenton, Mary Webb, Louisa Worley, Thomas Hurren, and James Leek, whose judgment was respited last Session, were ordered to be transported beyond the seas for the term of seven years.

## MARRIAGES.

On Tuesday, at Mrs. Bethell's seat, at Watton Abbey, Charles John Berkeley, M.D. of Beverley, to Miss F. H. Pennyman, youngest daughter of the late Sir James Pennyman, Bart.

## DEATHS.

On Monday last, in the 70th year of her age, Mrs. Johnson, of Ely-place.

Suddenly, in Dublin, P. Sharkey, Esq. author of the Irish Racing Calendar, and formerly Judge at the Curragh of Kildare.

On Monday, aged 72, Dr. Hawes, well known as the Founder of the Humane Society.

On Monday se'nnight, at Hawkstone, Shropshire, aged 76, Sir Richard Hill, Bart. brother to the Rev. Rowland Hill, of Methodistic memory.

Lately, at Barmick, county of Clare, Lady Peacocke, wife of Sir Joseph Peacocke, Bart. and sister of Lord Castlecoote.

On the 30th ult. at Cowes, Isle of Wight, in the 82d year of his age, Richard Sykes, Esq. only surviving brother of Sir Francis Sykes, Bart.

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